

## Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 /016 W  
----- 123376

P R 131137Z JUL 76  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 709  
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
AMCONSUL UDORN  
AMCONSUL SONGKHLA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 19764

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF  
SUBJ: REALLOCATION OF EPP NUMBERS RECOUPED IN THAILAND

REF: VIENTIANE 0213

1. NOW THAT SOME TIME HAS ELAPSED SINCE THE JUNE 30  
DEADLINE, THE EMBASSY OFFERS THE FOLLOWING TENTATIVE THOUGHTS  
ON DISPOSITION OF THE APPROXIMATELY 500 NUMBERS WE  
ESTIMATE WILL BE RECOUPED IN THAILAND.

2. THE FIRST PRIORITY FOR RECOUPED NUMBERS WILL BE FOR  
BABIES BORN TO "A" NUMBERED REFUGEES AND FOR ADD-ON  
RELATIVES WHO MET THE ORIGINAL EPP CRITERIA FOR ACCOMPANYING  
RELATIVES BUT FOR REASONS DETERMINED TO BE LEGITIMATE WERE  
UNABLE TO HAVE AN INS INTERVIEW. SUCH REASONS COULD BE  
RECENT ARRIVALS AND CAMP SEPARATION AT TIME OF INTERVIEW.

3. BEYOND ADD-ON RELATIVES, THE EMBASSY WOULD RECOMMEND  
TO ORM AND INS/CO CASES FOR PAROLE ACCORDING TO THE  
FOLLOWING PRIORITIES:

OUTSTANDING CAT II AND III APPLICANTS NEWLY  
ARRIVED, WITH RISK OF ESCAPE, AND REASON FOR DELAY IN  
ARRIVAL BEING TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. THUS, FOR EXAMPLE,  
A VIETNAMESE CAT II WITH TEN YEARS SERVICE WHO ESCAPES  
BY BOAT MIGHT WELL GET PREFERENCE OVER A LAO COLONEL  
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WHO TAKES A BOAT ACROSS THE MEKONG AFTER ONE YEAR

OF DRIVING A TAXI.

B. CASES IN WHICH "A" NUMBERS WERE NOT GRANTED UNDER THE EPP ORIGINALLY DUE TO EITHER USG ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR OR CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE REFUGEE.

C. ADD-ON NEW SPOUSES OF "NUMBERED" PRINCIPAL APPLICANTS.

D. CATEGORY 1A APPLICANTS NEWLY ARRIVED.

4. THE PROJECTED RECOUPED NUMBERS WILL BE ADEQUATE TO COVER SOME CASES FROM EACH OF THE ABOVE SITUATIONS. A PROBLEM THAT NEEDS TO BE SORTED OUT SEPARATELY IS THE VIENTIANE RESERVE. IN A RECENT INSTANCE (POST-JUNE 30) FOUR FAMILIES CAME OUT OF LAOS, ALL OF WHOM HAD WORKED UNTIL THEIR DEPARTURE FOR THE U.S. EMBASSY. ONLY ONE FAMILY WAS OFFERED NUMBERS FROM THE VIENTIANE RESERVE. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS NOT FAIR TO DENY NUMBERS TO THE OTHER THREE FAMILIES ALL OF WHOM PROBABLY HAD AN EXPECTATION THAT UPON ARRIVAL IN THAILAND THEY WOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF. VIENTIANE'S POINT, IN REFTEL, THAT THEIR RESERVE QUOTA SHOULD BE ENLARGED TO INCLUDE BLUE-COLLAR WORKERS IS WELL TAKEN. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE CANNOT SAVE NUMBERS INDEFINITELY FROM THE EPP FOR SUCH CONTINGENCIES. OUR PROPOSAL IS THAT THE VIENTIANE RESERVE BE SEPARATED FROM ALLOCATION OF PROJECTED EPP RECOUPS AND THAT VIENTIANE AND WASHINGTON ESTABLISH A NEW VIENTIANE FIGURE WHICH WOULD COVER ALL REMAINING EMPLOYEES AND COULD BE CONTINUED IN EFFECT AFTER THE EPP RECOUPED NUMBERS ARE REALLOCATED. THIS RESERVE COULD THEN BE ADMINISTERED BY THE CONSULAR SECTION AFTER THE REFUGEE SECTION CLOSES. UNLESS THIS TYPE OF SOLUTION IS ADOPTED WE WILL NOT KNOW HOW MANY RECOUPS TO HOLD FOR THIS GROUP AND SOME OF THE RECOUPS WILL EVENTUALLY NOT BE USED. SINCE THE PROBLEM OF THE REMAINING EMPLOYEES IN VIENTIANE IS SO UNIQUE THE SITUATION SHOULD BE HANDLED APART FROM OUR REALLOCATION OF EIP RECOUPED NUMBERS. WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BANGKO19764  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760269-0621  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760766/aaaacqf.tel  
**Line Count:** 99  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ORM  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 VIENTIANE 213  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <21 SEP 2004 by vogelfj>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REALLOCATION OF EPP NUMBERS RECOUPED IN THAILAND  
**TAGS:** SREF, TH, VS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006